

OSMP - Renting Picnic Shelters and Facilities

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Renting OSMP Picnic Shelters and Facilities

Facility Rental Information

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Thank you for your interest in renting an Open Space & Mountain Parks facility.

To choose a facility, see Facilities at a Glance and Frequently Asked Questions.

See the Facility map.

Please read this page thoroughly to help answer questions you may have, and to understand rules and regulations. Should you choose to rent a facility, your signature on the rental agreement acknowledges you understand and accept all the information included here and on the agreement.

To confirm your reservation, we will need your payment of the rental fee (credit card or check) and your signature on the rental agreement. Reservations can be made at the Cherryvale Administrative Office, 66 South Cherryvale Road, 303-441-3440, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Facilities can be reserved no more than nine months in advance. If the day you wish to reserve the shelter falls on a weekend, the reservation is taken on the corresponding Friday before. Reservations are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Walk-in citizens have priority over mail-in and/or phone requests. Flagstaff Mountain Summit facilities are available from May 1 through October 31.

On the following pages you will find a complete list and description of the facilities available for rental, including fee

system information, regulations and costs. Additional city facilities are available through Boulder Parks and Recreation and can be reserved by calling 303-413-7200.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the cost of renting a facility?

When can I rent a facility?

What about changes or cancellations?

Do we pay for parking with reservations?

Is alcohol allowed on Open Space and Mountain Parks?

How many people are allowed at a facility?

Can I have amplified music or instruments?

Is there electricity or water available?

Keys to buildings (Halfway House only).

Return of deposits.

SPECIAL INFORMATION

Terms and Conditions for Facility Rental

Reservations can be made at the Cherryvale Administrative Office, 66 South Cherryvale Road, 303-441-3440, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The terms and conditions of this reservation are for FACILITY USE ONLY. Groups of 50 or more people wishing to hold an event in an area of Mountain Parks OUTSIDE a designated facility, must apply for a Special Use Permit (92.93 KB), 14 days prior to the event for staff review. For information on special use permits, call 303-441-3440.

No permit shall be issued except upon satisfactory assurance that the use of the facility will be under the direct supervision of an adult.

Reservations or permits will not be allowed on the Fourth of July, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve or New

Years Day.

Permits are required to consume alcohol at any of the facilities and/or when group size is 15 or more people. See Alcohol Permit Guidelines.

Glass containers are not permitted on Open Space & Mountain Parks (including wine glasses and champagne bottles).

Use of live bands and amplification is restricted. Applicants must comply with the Noise Ordinance Number 3554. If it is determined that noise is disturbing other park visitors, persons responsible will be asked to lower the noise and/or terminate the event and may be charged an additional fee for the services of the noise control officer. No electrical hook-ups are available due to the remoteness of the area.

The use of generators, power supplies, etc. is strongly discouraged. If it is determined that noise is disturbing other park visitors, persons responsible will be asked to lower the volume and/or terminate the event.

Facilities must be left in a clean and orderly condition. Applicant(s) will be responsible for any damage. For Halfway House rentals, all doors and windows must be closed and locked and the key returned.

Chairs, tables or other equipment will not be furnished by the Open Space & Mountain Parks department.

Under no circumstances are signs, balloons or any other items to be nailed, pinned, stapled or otherwise attached to any tree, park sign, facility and/or along the roadways. This will be considered litter.

Activities that damage or disturb any natural or man-made feature are prohibited.

The Director of Open Space & Mountain Parks (or agent) reserves the right to change the provisions of this contract.

Renters are asked to remove all trash that will not fit in the available receptacles from the area.

Fires are allowed only in designated metal fire places provided by the Department. Ground fires are prohibited. In the event of a fire ban / fire restriction the rules of said ban / restriction shall apply. There is no guarantee that fires of any kind will be allowed. Gathering of wood is strictly prohibited. The Department does not provide firewood. All firewood must be provided by person(s) reserving the facility. Gas grills are permitted only in designated picnic areas with existing fire grills, and only if there is no fire ban in effect.

Tents, canopies, umbrellas, etc., are not permitted at any of these sites.

Change of Date Policy: Date changes made to existing reservations will be charged an additional \$25.

Cancellation Policy: One half of fee will be returned if canceled 15 days or more before scheduled date. If reservation is canceled within 14 days, no refund will be issued.

No refunds due to inclement weather or conditions.

From Nov. 1 through April 30, the Flagstaff Summit Road is closed to motor vehicles. No reservations will be made for Summit facilities during this time.

Reservations do not include parking fees for Flagstaff Mountain. Discounts are available for bulk daily permits to reservation holders only.

Cars that are not registered in Boulder County are required to have a parking permit. Reservation holders for the Flagstaff Summit Shelters or the Halfway House may either have attendees purchase daily parking permits at self-service stations provided or may pre-purchase daily permits at the Open Space and Mountain Parks administrative office. Applicants who pre-purchase daily permits will receive a 20 percent discount on packets of 10. (Note: these pre-purchased daily permits are available only to those with paid reservations, are not refundable, and do not guarantee a parking space).

Deposits: There is a \$100 key deposit for the Halfway House. Upon its return to the OSMP administrative office, the deposit will be returned to the renter. For those deposits paid by credit card, a credit to the same card will be made within 10 days. For deposits paid by check, refunds in the form of a check will be complete in two to four weeks.

Rental Time Blocks

Each rental is a time BLOCK with a mandatory hour between.

Time Blocks:

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Rental Rates

Facilities
Resident*
Non-Resident
Key Deposit

Sunrise Amphitheater**
\$300
\$400
--

Stone Shelter
\$175
\$275
--

Wood (Jaycee) Shelter
\$175
\$275
--

Halfway House
\$175
\$275
\$100

Bluebell Shelter
\$175
\$275
--

* Residing within Boulder city limits.

** Early morning rental at Sunrise Amphitheater may occasionally be available between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. at an hourly rate of \$100 or \$150, dependent on date and event schedules.

Special Information No rice, confetti, birdseed or straw shall be used at events. Wildlife such as birds and small mammals may feed on birdseed, rice or other materials and may become dependent on these food sources. Throwing confetti or other material is littering.

No release of animals (wildlife or domestic) or balloons (helium or other) at events. Litter from balloons and other decorations can be harmful if ingested by wild animals.

Parking spaces may not be reserved. Reservations are for the facility only.

Any flower arrangements, garlands, etc. must be removed at conclusion of events. Any items left at facility site will be considered litter.

Tents, nets or structures (canopies) are not permitted (B.R.C. 8-3-21). The natural, aesthetic quality of the Mountain Parks is what many people come to enjoy. Please help to maintain that experience by not placing or erecting such structures and by using provided facilities. Arches used in religious ceremonies will need to be held by participants.

Be aware of and check in advance for fire regulations and potential fire bans. Collection of wood or having ground fires is prohibited. Fire bans may be in effect at any time. The risk of catastrophic wildland fires is year-round and uncontained fires can easily escape and become uncontrollable.

Glass containers (champagne, wine or beer bottles, glasses, etc.) are prohibited (B.R.C. 8-3-9). Please use non-glass containers and recycle what you can. Glass breaking used in religious ceremonies should be done on a sturdy tarp and all glass should be contained.

General Guidelines for Alcohol Permits

Permits are required at Open Space & Mountain Parks facilities or for groups of 15 or more people. Permits are granted only to people with confirmed facility rental and must be obtained between 90 and 14 days prior to the event. The alcohol permit fee is \$25. Permit holders must be a city of Boulder resident and 21 years of age with valid identification. Residency is confirmed through a valid ID. Permits shall be for fermented and vinous beverages only (wine/3.2 percent beer). All participants must be at least 21 years of age or accompanied by a parent or guardian. Permit hours must correspond with the hours as listed on the rental agreement, and no permit will be issued for hours before 9 a.m. or after 10 p.m. The maximum number of participants for any event at the Summit facilities is 150. Glass bottles and containers are prohibited in Open Space & Mountain Parks. Persons shall stay within twenty-five feet of the approved location with liquor in open containers.

OSMP Facilities at a Glance

Facilities are not reserved on the following holidays:

July Fourth, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve or New Year's Day.

See the [Facility map](#)

Download the [Printer-Friendly Facility Map \(82.93 KB\)](#)

Facility

May-Oct

Only

Capacity

Grills

Picnic Tables

Water

Bath- room

Park

Fee

Access- ible

Sunrise Amphitheater

X

150

X

Latrine

X

X*

Stone Shelter

X

150

2

20

X

Latrine

X

Wood (Jaycee) Shelter

X

150

1

8

X

Latrine

X

Halfway House

75

4

4 in,

4 out

Latrine

X

X**

Bluebell Shelter

50

1

2-3

Latrine

X***

* to top of seating area but not into stage area

**Patio is accessible, structure is not.

NOTES:

There is NO ELECTRICITY available at any of these facilities.

The picnic shelter located by the Chautauqua Auditorium is managed by the Boulder Chautauqua Association. Call them for information and reservations at (303) 442-3282.

The grassy lawn at Chautauqua Park is managed by city of Boulder Parks and Recreation and can be reserved by calling 303-413-7200.

FLAGSTAFF MOUNTAIN SUMMIT FACILITIES

3.5 miles up Flagstaff Road, turn right and follow to Summit area about 1/4 mile. See the Facility map.

Maximum attendance is 150 in any one time block (all Summit facilities combined).

Summit Facilities are not reserved from November 1 through April 30.

Sunrise Amphitheater

The Sunrise Amphitheater on the summit of Flagstaff Mountain is a popular location for weddings between May and October. Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933-34, the Amphitheater is a rustic outdoor facility made from local stone. It features a large circular area, a small stage, seating for 150, and magnificent views of the city of Boulder below and the plains beyond.

The facility is accessed by following Flagstaff Road about 3.4 miles from where it begins going up Flagstaff Mountain to its junction with the Flagstaff Summit road. Go right on Flagstaff Summit Road and follow it for about half a mile to the summit of Flagstaff Mountain. The Sunrise Amphitheater is located at the east end of the Flagstaff summit area beneath the large flagpole.

150 people maximum Three hour maximum Seating for approximately 150 Stage Restrooms are nearby which are wheelchair accessible. No firewood available/collecting firewood prohibited Wheelchair accessible to seating area. For wheelchair accesiblity to the stage, please notify the OSMP administrative offices for a ramp. No electricity; water available during summer months by pump cistern at Flagstaff Summit Nature Center

Parking fee area

Stone Shelter

The Stone Shelter is located on the summit of Flagstaff Mountain, and is available for groups of up to 150. Originally known as the Flagstaff Shelter House, this facility was constructed by the Boulder Lions Club in 1933. It is a roofed moss rock structure with two inside picnic tables, two fireplaces and open-air windows. Twenty large picnic tables (seating approximately 150 people) and two grills are located just outside the shelter. Although fires are permitted unless otherwise posted, no firewood is available.

150 people maximum Three hour maximum 20 large picnic tables outside Seating for approximately 150 Covered area for about 25 people Two large grills (four cooking areas) Restrooms nearby No firewood available/collecting firewood prohibited No electricity; water available during summer months at pump cistern near Flagstaff Summit Nature Center.

Parking fee area

Wood (Jaycee) Shelter

The Wood Shelter (also known as the Jaycee Shelter) is a covered, open-air wooden facility that is available for group picnics at the summit of Flagstaff Mountain.

150 people maximum Three hour maximum Eight picnic tables Covered area for approximately 50 people One large grill One long, narrow serving table Restrooms nearby No firewood available/collecting firewood prohibited No electricity; water available during summer months at pump cistern near Flagstaff Summit Nature Center

Parking fee area

OTHER OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS FACILITIES

(Available year-round)

See the Facility map.

Halfway House - across from Flagstaff Restaurant, about 1.2 miles up Flagstaff Road on east side.

The Halfway House is an enclosed stone facility that is available by reservation for groups of up to 75 people. Originally known as the Panorama Park Shelter House, the facility was rebuilt in 1933 by the Civilian Conservation Corps, replacing a structure that was originally built by the Lions Club in 1919. The Halfway House is a popular location for weddings and picnics, and has a lovely stone patio that affords magnificent views of the Boulder Valley. The patio is accessible to wheelchairs via a short trail from the parking area; the structure itself is not. Halfway house is located across from Flagstaff Restaurant, about 1.2 miles up Flagstaff Road on east side.

75 people maximum (key deposit required) PARKING LIMITED, CAR POOLING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED Four tables inside shelter Covered seating for approximately 40 Patio Stone fireplace Four tables outside shelter Grills outside Restrooms 150 yards south No firewood available/collecting firewood prohibited No electricity, no water Wheelchair accessible (trail and patio only)

Parking fee area

Bluebell Shelter- approximately 3/4 mile south of Chautauqua Trailhead and Ranger Cottage on Bluebell Road.

Bluebell Shelter is a covered, open-air stone facility available for group picnics and activities that was constructed by the Lions Club in 1921. It is located at the end of Bluebell Road, a closed emergency access road that originates at the entrance to Chautauqua Park. Because the road is closed to vehicles, use of Bluebell Shelter requires an approximate 0.75 mile walk from the Chautauqua Ranger Cottage.

Hike in only, no vehicles Fifty people maximum Two picnic tables Covered seating for approximately 15 One grill Fireplace No firewood available/collecting firewood prohibited Restrooms 100 yards downhill No electricity, no water Wheelchair accessible Must walk 3/4 mile to shelter, emergency access gate stays closed

Small Facilities

There are a number of picnic tables throughout Open Space and Mountain Parks that are available for public use. These do not require reservations, and may be used on a first-come, first served basis.

More Visitor Links

»Trail Maps

- » Trail Descriptions
- » Visiting with Dogs
- » Rules and Regulations
- » Wildlife Closures
- » Leave No Trace on Open Space